

Standing tall

Former police chief speaks to students

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

If you don't stand for something, you'll sit still for just about anything.

Students at Discovery Middle School in Canton Township had that lesson reinforced last week when former Detroit Police Chief Ike McKinnon presented a talk called "Standing Tall."

McKinnon's half hour speech is based on his own trials and tribulations. "Stand Tall - Or You Will Fall Short" is aimed at giving teens - and adults - the tools of success.

"What I hope the kids learn is that no matter the situation is, they can rise above it," McKinnon said after the last of two speeches.

"There are obstacles in life - especially for young people - that seem like they can't be overcome. But they can."

The presentation is based on "Standing Tall," the autobiography McKinnon, 60, wrote after spending four years as Detroit Chief of Police. During his tenure, the popular chief was involved in several community activities and had a very high public profile.

After resigning from the position in 1998, McKinnon worked as a professor of education and

"Kids today need all the guidance they can get from adults."

Former Detroit Police Chief Ike McKinnon

human services at the University of Detroit Mercy. He has been speaking about his experiences for about five years.

McKinnon believes that some of the experiences - both good and bad - that led him to where he is today could be helpful to young people who are just beginning to find their way. Growing up poor in Detroit, McKinnon learned early that problems can be overcome as long as a person feels good about themselves, and understands that there is always a constructive way to cope with issues that crop up.

"Kids today need all the guidance they can get from adults," McKinnon said.

Students funded McKinnon's visit using some of the proceeds from a fundraiser organized by the student council last September. The event generated \$20,000, according to Clinton Smiley, the assistant principal at Discovery Middle School.

"At the beginning of the year,

the members (of the student council) decide who they want to bring in for about three assemblies a year," Smiley said. "Ike was one of the people they were really excited about. Sometimes, our assemblies are put on just for fun... we had a magic show that was really well received this year. But I think the kids really got a lot out of this (presentation)."

For 12-year-old Kayla Carmody, a seventh grader at Discovery, the event helped her to see how important it is to help others. "A lot of people out there really need help," she said. "I really liked the show."

Kayla's friend, Ashley Schmitt, also 12, said she hopes her classmates received a positive impression, too.

"(The presentation) makes me optimistic about the future," she said.

For McKinnon, who speaks at about 150 events a year, bringing his message to students is more rewarding than his usual audiences of various government officials.

"When I'm asked to go to a school, I always go," he said. "There's so much potential for kids. We need to stress how important it is to be (in school). We need to give our children all the support they need so they can become happy, productive adults."



Former Detroit Police Chief Ike McKinnon sang his rendition of the Motown classic "My Girl" to about 900 Discovery Middle School students with the help from members of the school's teaching staff.

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Marquis Theatre seeking young actors

Auditions for *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* have been scheduled for 5 p.m. June 1 at the Marquis Theatre in Northville.

Performers must prepare a song and bring sheet music. An accompanist will be provided. Performers must also read a poem no longer than 2 minutes, which

does not have to be memorized.

Auditions are for children 8-16. Performance dates are Aug. 5 through Sept. 14.

The Marquis Theatre is located at 135 E. Main St. in downtown Northville.

For more information, phone (248) 349-8110.

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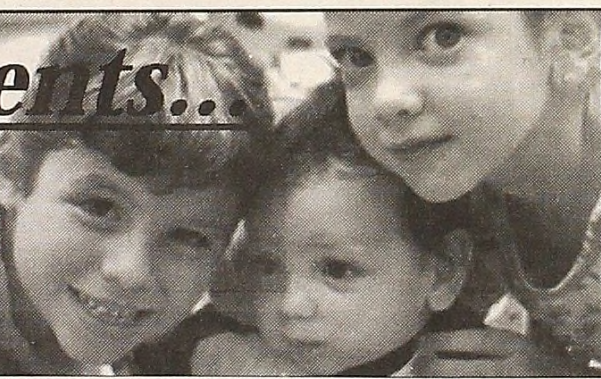
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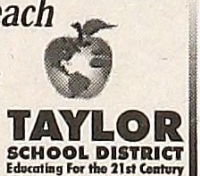
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Teacher

FROM PAGE 1

program is one of the largest recognition programs in the country. Since it began in 1995, the program has honored more than 14,000 teachers nationwide and contributed \$10.5 million to those schools.

Last year alone, Wal-Mart contributed more than \$14 million to educational costs.

Lauren Kelsaw, one of Dickson's students, nominated her for the award.

Kelsaw's Teacher of the Year ballot said Dickson was "very kind, very intelligent and always goes the distance for others."

"She always makes sure you understand all your work before you leave the classroom. She also follows up with parents on homework, tests and report cards. She is just a wonderful teacher," Kelsaw wrote.

Ron Warner, store manager of the Belleville Wal-Mart, presented Dickson with the award.

"The Teacher of the Year is a big program for Wal-Mart every year, with several school districts represented. You must be a really good teacher or you wouldn't be here," he told Dickson.

A resident of Canton Township, Dickson grew up in Detroit and graduated from Wayne State University in Detroit. She taught in Detroit public schools for three years. This is her second year teaching in Romulus.

"I didn't decide that I wanted to become a teacher until after I had children. Plus, my dad, Ozell DuPree, is a retired principal," she added.

Dickson has four children—Royce, 13; Ryan, 10; and identical twins, Taylor and Tylar, 8.

"I have 23 kids at school and then come home to four," she said.

Dickson said she was thrilled when she learned she had won the Belleville 2003 Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year award.

"My principal, Lynn Mossoian, told me last Friday (May 9) and I cried like a baby," she said.

"In honor of my award, I'm giving my class a party with pizza and ice cream," Dickson added.

Dickson said she likes working at Romulus Elementary. "It's a small staff and everyone's really helpful," she said.

"I like working with the little ones. They still believe everything I say and they don't challenge me," she noted.

Dickson believes the most important qualities of a successful teacher are getting students to trust and being a good listener.

"I always make it a point to stop what I'm doing and listen to my students. I also try to get them to respect one another. Sometimes they call me Mom by accident because they're so close and comfortable with me," she said.

Dickson said she's not sorry she chose teaching over veterinary medicine.

"It wasn't my first choice in careers, but it was my best choice," she said.



Special 'friends'

Romulus Animal Control Officer Kim Matthews, far right, brought along some special friends to say thank you to students at Barth Elementary School. Students have donated \$1,270 to the shelter campaign. Getting acquainted with some shelter residents are, from left, fourth-grade teacher Scott Jastrzab, co-op students Megan Hatcher and Natasha Lowe from Romulus Senior High School. Fundraising efforts for the shelter are near the \$15,000 mark, according to Matthews.

Teens - Community involvement sought by group

FROM PAGE 1

However, these statistics, which include pregnancies in women age 19 and below, may include pregnancies to women who are married.

Also, statistics are based on the area code 48184, which includes portions of other communities such as Brownstown and Brownstown Township.

The Healthy Living Advisory committee started three or four years ago through the Mayor's Substance Abuse Task Force. The group is committed to making decisions on what should go on in Romulus schools as far as health and reproductive issues. Sheila Stasek, a teacher at Romulus High, serves as the committee chair.

"We feel this is a community problem, not just the schools," she said at the May 7 meeting.

Connor, who has helped community leaders tackle high rates of teen pregnancy in other communities, says the first priority is admitting that the problem exists.

"There is a teen pregnancy

"We feel this is a community problem, not just the schools."

Sheila Stasek
Teacher

issue in Romulus. But that doesn't mean we can't roll up our sleeves and address this issue," Connor said.

He has studied high rates of teen pregnancy in communities in Michigan, Connecticut, Oregon, Kansas and California.

Connor says for cities to reduce the problem of high teen pregnancy, citizens need to have members of the community engaged in the issue.

They also need multiple strategies for dealing with the problem.

Finally, they need a way to sustain fewer pregnancies in teens.

"Solutions instead of managing the problems is the answer," Connor said.

"Cities have to have a shared

sense that this is an issue in the community."

He advocates education for youth about sex and responsibilities at different ages and different stages of their development.

Local police can also help combat teen pregnancy.

"For example, some communities have had their police departments take a strong stance against so-called 'predator males'—older men who prey on younger women," Connor said.

Local teens also need to contribute to the fight against teen pregnancy, Connor said.

"Kids are at the center of this. They have to be involved. We have to get comfortable with these discussions."

"Look at how kids dress today. A lot of it is about attention," said council member Debbie Romak.

"Parents to me are the key. If they aren't open about sex and drugs and not drinking and driving, these issues are going to continue," she said.

The May 7 meeting took place on the National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, according to Stasek.

"One of the reasons we're here tonight is our frustration as educators in trying to get the word out to parents," she added.

"You're not going to get rid of sex. What you need to offer teens is birth control and protection," said Megan Hatcher, a Romulus High School student.

Connor agreed, stating that Muskegon advocated an abstinence-only policy and their number of teen pregnancies actually increased.

"I think what the city needs is a place where teens can go to have fun, like a community center, instead of them being unsupervised in homes," she added.

The next community meeting on the teen pregnancy issue in Romulus is planned for May 28. For information about the time and location, contact Stasek at (734) 532-1285.



Among those joining members of the Romulus schools Healthy Living Advisory Committee for a community meeting about teen pregnancy May 7 were, left to right: Linda Schilk, Hegura Prevention Services; Lorraine Wagner, Romulus Help Center; Celeste Roscoe, Board of Education trustee; Sheila Stasek, Healthy Living chair; and Florence Klein, Romulus Helping Hand Thrift Shop. Back row: Jay Connor, featured speaker and founder of the Collaboratory for Community Support; the Rev. William Kren, pastor, United Methodist Church; Judge Brian A. Oakley, 34th District Court; the Rev. Ronald Arthur, pastor, Springhill Baptist Church and Debbie Dick, parent.

Plan

FROM PAGE 1

20 to 44. The next largest number of people are those in mid-life—age 45 to 64.

The median income is \$45,000 and most residents are employed in the production or transportation industries.

"Romulus has a strong, industrial tax base," Strader said.

One goal of a master plan is to build on the city assets. In Romulus, these include a rich history; volunteerism; and easy access to interstate highways, the airport and the entire Detroit metropolitan area.

The community also has varied land use with both a rural and city flavor.

Preliminary goals of a new master plan are to look at the diversity of housing and create a balanced mix of land use.

During the workshop, residents rotated among three 20-minute breakout sessions. At "A Vision for Your Neighborhood," planners asked residents to take a colored sheet that corresponded to one of six blocks of color on a map of the city identifying particular neighborhoods.

Planners asked residents to check their top three improvement priorities for their neighborhood. They also asked them if they rent or own, how long they have lived in the city and how long they planned to live in the city.

At the Land Use station, participants used stick-on dots and stars to select various types of developments and landscaping they wanted to see in the city.

Three concepts were presented for them to "vote" on also—more industrial with a modest amount of residential; more single family dwellings with less industrial/commercial use of land; and a balance between residential and industrial use.

The third session, "A Vision for Streets and City Services," had residents look at the city traffic, transportation and public services issues.

Planners asked participants to place a star on a map at the location they felt had traffic conflicts.

They were asked what they thought the number one priority was as far as improving city services, vehicular circulation and other types of transportation.

Crowd

FROM PAGE 1

the back-up officers as a safety precaution, Davis said. The situation could easily have escalated, Davis said.

The fights were stopped and the crowd dispersed shortly after the bar closed, Davis added.

The Belleville chief also said that officers patrolled Dude's more heavily this past weekend, as the bar sponsored a band competition that brought in more customers than usual. While Belleville did not call for other municipalities for back up, city reserve officers were called in for the weekend, Davis said.

Library offers summer fun for young readers

There will be yoga, police dogs, magicians and a robot at the Romulus Public Library this summer...all to show children how much fun it can be to read.

Romulus Public Library staff members have planned the "Laugh it Up at Your Library" 2003 Summer Reading Program to make reading fun for the younger set.

And they are encouraging area children to register for the program. They say reading during the summer months is not only fun but also helps children improve and maintain their reading skills.

Staff members will decorate the library with the familiar smiley face stickers and colorful animal characters in keeping with the theme.

Weekly programs will feature a variety of entertainment and learning opportunities.

There will also be a prize drawing after each program. Students can qualify to win a prize by keeping track of the time they spend reading.

They will also make the process of recording reading time simple for children.

Romulus Friends of the Library, members of the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce, and members of the Romulus and Huron Township Rotary Clubs will sponsor the reading program.

All programs are free. Registration starts June 9 at the library at 11121 Wayne Road between city hall and the 34th District Court.

The Summer Reading Program begins at 1 p.m. June 17 with "Cobras, Lions and Flamingos—Not Real Animals but Yoga Postures" with Jennifer Barrett.

"Songs and Puppets," starring Rita Kirsch and Candy Cow, will take place at 1 p.m. June 24.

Leonard, Smokey, Wright and Bandit from the Romulus Police K-9 Unit will visit children at 1 p.m. July 2.

Deanna will bring her robot, Katie B. Well, at 1 p.m. July 8 to educate youngsters about proper nutrition and bicycle safety.

Zeemo the Magnificent will entertain young library visitors at 1 p.m. July 16 with his one-man circus act.

Children can enjoy the magic and illusions of Jason Hudy in his "Comedy Magic" at 1 p.m. July 22.

July 25 will be the last day for children to record their reading time to earn prizes at the library.

Library staff members and volunteers will present awards, prizes and refreshments to reading program participants at 1 p.m. July 30.

Romulus Public Library summer hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and noon to 5 p.m. Friday. The library is closed on weekends during the summer.

For more information about the Romulus Public Library Summer Reading Program or other events planned at the library, call Shelly DeLano, youth services librarian, at (734) 942-7589.

ROMULUS HOUSING COMMISSION NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Romulus Housing Commission.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about June 16, 2003, the City of Romulus will authorize the Romulus Housing Commission to submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of FY 2001, 2002 and 2003 Capital Fund Program (CFP) funds under Title I of the Public Housing Act of 1937, as amended, to undertake projects CFP 2001, 2002 and 2003 for the purpose of performing minor rehabilitation, general property improvements. In addition, the funding can be used for consulting and other service fees.

The following activities are proposed under CFP 2001: Staff & Commissioner training (2,200); Security Program (40,000); Auditing fees (1,800); A&E fees and cost (18,000); Water heaters, Ranges and refrigerators (6,000); Relocation Costs (4,000); Contingency (3,798); Landscaping and Tree Trimming (33,500); Kitchen & hall florescents (4,000) basement stair enclosures (13,900); Bathtub drain gasket Replacement (19,193); 5-year painting cycle (39,900); Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Detectors (12,000). The total CFP Grant being requested is \$199,491.00. The aforementioned activities will occur at the 101 public housing units operated by the Romulus Housing Commission.

The following activities are proposed under CFP 2002: Staff & Commissioner training (3000); Security Program (40,000); Administration (5,000); A&E fees and costs (20,000); (Rear porch refuge fences (10,869); Concrete walks and driveways (15,000); Paint 25 dwelling unit Interiors (67,500); New mail boxes and posts (8,000); Accordion closet doors (19,700). The total CFP Grant being requested is \$189,069.00. The aforementioned activities will occur at the 101 public housing units operated by the Romulus Housing Commission.

The following activities are proposed under CFP 2003; Staff & Commissioner training (3000); Security Program (40,000); Administration (3,000); A&E fees and costs (20,000); Fence and mowing strip (10,000); Paint 25 dwelling unit interiors (67,500); Accordion closet doors (46,500). The aforementioned activities will occur at the 101 public housing units operated by the Romulus Housing Commission. The CPF Grant being requested is \$189,069.00.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Romulus has determined that the project will have -no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) can be examined at the Romulus Housing Commission, 34200 Beverly Road, Romulus, Michigan, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to be examined or copied.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the City of Romulus 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174. All comments received by June 10, 2003 will be considered by the City of Romulus prior to submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The City of Romulus certifies to the Department of Housing and Urban Development that Mayor Alan Lambert in his capacity as mayor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The Department of Housing and Urban Development acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities and — under NEPA and allow the Romulus Housing Commission to use the Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO-RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Department of Housing and Urban Development will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Romulus certifications for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following basis; (a) the certification was not executed by the certifying officer of the City of Romulus; (b) The City of Romulus has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) The grant recipient has incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before an approval of a release of funds by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, or (4) another federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objection must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures. (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Grant Administration Office, Office of Public Housing, Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48226. Potential objectors should contact the Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Alan Lambert, Mayor
City of Romulus

Publish: May 22, 2003
May 29, 2003
June 05, 2003

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Public Accuracy Test for the June 9, 2003, Regular School Election has been scheduled for Friday, May 30, 2003, at 12:30 p.m. at Van Buren Public Schools, Administration Building, located at 555 W. Columbia Avenue, Belleville, Michigan.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the results of the election counts the vote in the manner prescribed by law.

Ralph A. Nodwell
Secretary, Board of Education
Van Buren Public Schools
Counties of Wayne and Washtenaw, Michigan

Publish: May 22, 2003

Obituaries

CHAMPION, Alta

Alta Champion, 92, formerly of Belleville, died May 10 at the Chelsea Retirement Community.

Among her survivors are a daughter, Lois Mary Champion of Denver, Colo.; sons, David Lee (Kelly) of Los Angeles, Cal., Daniel Paul (Barbara) of Ann Arbor; Lloyd James of Chelsea; eight grandchildren, Jeffrey, Erik, Rebecca, Laurie, Karrie, Jody, Gina and Mia, and several great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at the Chelsea Retirement Community Chapel with the Rev. Jeff Crowder officiating.

Interment was at Oak Grove East Cemetery in Chelsea.

ALLSUP, Mary M.

Mary M. Allsup, 84, died May 8 in Grand Rapids.

Among her survivors are her sons, George (Judy) Pio of Grand Rapids and Michael G. (Gloria) Surgenor of Spartanburg, S. Car.; a daughter, Mary Craft of Pinckney; grandchildren, Sandra Smith, Michelle Pio, Cory Craft, William Surgenor IV and Christopher Surgenor; a great-grandson, Jack Smith, and a sister, Patricia Schreiner of Grayling.

Graveside services were at Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor with the Rev. Melanie Carey officiating.

Arrangements were entrusted to Stark Funeral Service Moore Memorial Chapel in Ypsilanti.

KINCAIDE, Robert H. Jr.

Robert H. Kincaide, Jr., 60, of Belleville, died May 14.

Among his survivors are his wife, Gertrude; his children, Shelly (Richard) Truhn, Kelly (Douglas) Doty and Lesly (Christopher) Greene; his father, Robert Connolly Sr.; six siblings, and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home in Huron Township.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park.

MOTLEY, B.J.

B.J. Motley, 66, died May 13. Funeral services were at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne.

BOHANNON, Ruby

Ruby Bohannon, 79, of San Bernardino, Cal., formerly of Belleville, died May 12.

Among her survivors are her daughter, Terry Bishop of Carson City, Nev.; a sister, Donna Santa, of San Bernardino; a niece, Debby (Danny) Williams of Belleville; several other nieces and nephews, and a granddaughter, Cameron Bishop.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Pastor Clarence Hayes officiating.

Interment was at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia.

COTTER, Thomas Maurice, Jr.

Thomas Maurice Cotter, Jr., 77, died May 15.

Among his survivors are his wife of 52 years, Anna; children, Thomas, Kathleen, Colleen (Robert) Dansereau, Kevin, Mark (Michelle) Maureen and Brian (Joclyn); 10 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Cotter served in the U.S. Navy and was an honorary life member of the Knights of Columbus.

Funeral services were at St. Norbert Catholic Church in Inkster.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Santeiu and Son Funeral Home in Garden City.

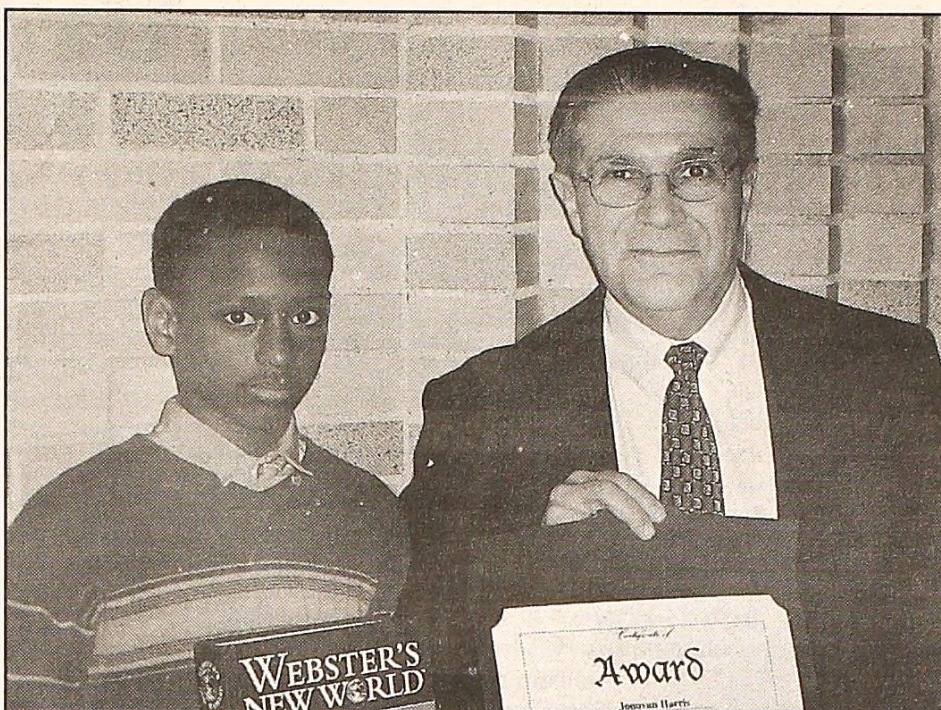
CONNOLLY, Neil Brian

Neil Brian Connolly, 48, of Flat Rock, died May 8.

Among his survivors are his wife, Sharon "Sherry"; his children, Jamie (Chris) Jones, Sean and Ryan Connolly, and a brother, James (Judy) Connolly.

Funeral services were at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home in Huron Township.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park.



Spelling champ

Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education members recently honored district spelling bee winner, Jonathan Harris, a fifth grader at Savage Elementary School. Harris was one of 25 students from the district who competed in the district spelling bee. The proud winner displays his award with his school principal, Dominic Maniaci.

Imported trash is meeting topic

Legislators from the state House and Senate will visit Northville next week for the second in a series of meetings to gather public input on the importation of out-of-state trash.

Members of the Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Land Use and Environment Committee have scheduled a town hall meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in Meads Mill Middle School, 16700 Franklin Road.

Attention to the issue of refuse from Toronto, Ontario, New York and other states filling up Michigan dumps has been on the rise during the last six months, leading residents and legislators to call for some means to stem the tide of trash.

A 1978 decision by the U.S. Supreme Court says that states may not legislate against such importation without running afoul of the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

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- Athletics for boys and girls
- Courses for college credit
- Career Pathways

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OPINION

The one who got away

There's an old saying that reminds us that we don't know what we have until it's gone.

It's a long recognized but sad fact of human nature – we tend to overlook the treasures in our backyard for the promise of what may lay around the corner.

That old saying has particular relevance in the City of Inkster this week. City officials are faced with the prospect of finding another new police chief – the second in two weeks – after Deputy Chief Phil Ludos announced he would leave to seek a position in Florida. Ludos, the deputy chief for more than three years, was considered a shoe-in to replace longtime Chief Terry Colwell, who retired three weeks ago. Ludos started his career in Livonia and has worked as police chief in other communities. He hired on with the thought that he would replace Ludos when he retired and said he had a verbal agreement with City Manager Robert Gordon to that effect.

And he should have been named to the post. Ludos has done a lot of good work since he came on board and he'll leave many important tasks unfulfilled – like the crucial job of reorganizing a department that recently saw six command officers take an early retirement buy out.

His resignation puts the city in a difficult position, but it doesn't appear to be any fault of Ludos, who said he made several attempts to develop a plan for the department and talk with Gordon about the immediate future of the department, and what his role in it would be.

Maybe Gordon already has someone in mind to oversee the department. He and Lt. Thomas Diaz will meet later this week to determine a succession plan, and Gordon hasn't had any trouble filling spots in the past with people he worked with when he was city manager of the now-financially troubled Allen Park.

His difficulties may not be in filling the post in the short term, but rather in what lessons officers and command staff members have learned from this mistake. They may see it as a breach of trust and a lack of confidence in the many officers capably serving the city on a daily basis.

There is nothing better for morale than promoting from within and nothing more dangerous to that morale than something as seemingly innocent as an outside job search.

Whatever Gordon thinks he may find around that proverbial corner better be worth these extra twists and turns.

A walk on the safe side

Little issues often become larger issues in small town politics.

The discussion Monday night at the Northville City Council centered around one such little issue that may have larger long-term implications for the city and it involved something most of us don't think too much about: sidewalks.

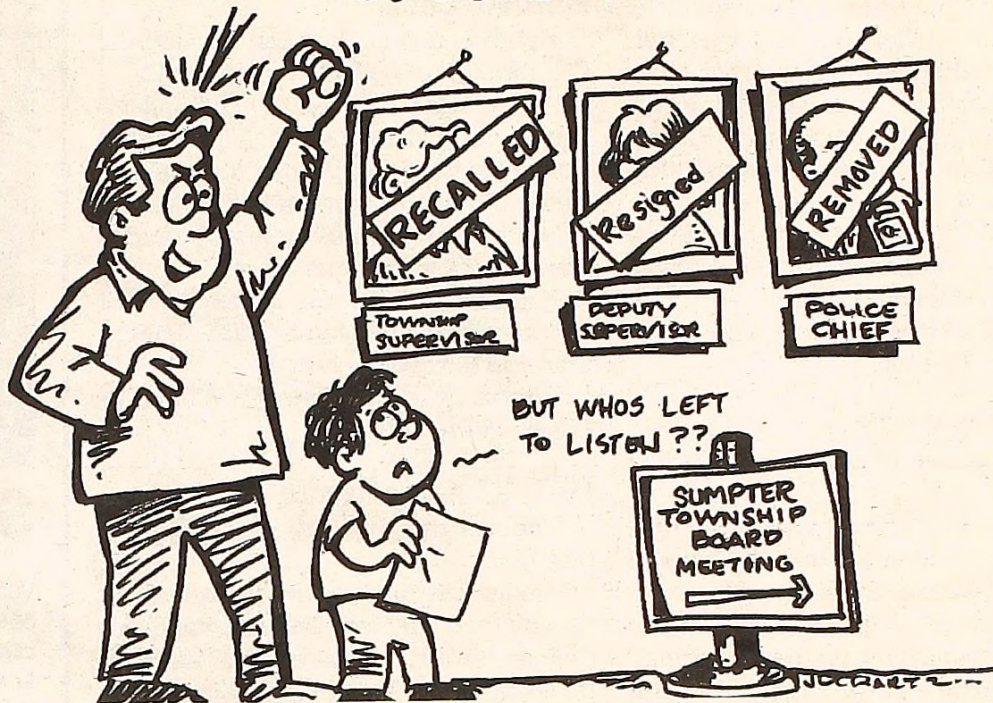
The city has started a campaign to fill in all sidewalk gaps because they believe it will lead to a safer, more pedestrian friendly environment. That's certainly a reasonable thought. They've even made it a requirement for any homeowners who build on vacant lots to install the sidewalks at their own expense in order to help stretch tax dollars.

If Northville were a typical urban city, the issue might simply die there. But it's not. There are portions of the city that still have winding, gravel roads, where the appeal of the neighborhood is that it provides a rural setting only a five minute walk from the downtown; neighborhoods that enjoy plenty of lush, natural vegetation that emulates a more rustic setting.

And those residents aren't too keen on sidewalks.

See Walk, page 7

THE PEOPLE OF SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
HAVE SPOKEN!!



Words make a difference

Hindsight, they say, is 20/20.

I'm in a position where it's not advisable to second guess one's decisions, and yet I can't help looking back at the work I do and wondering how I could have made it better.

In this case it's a headline I used above a story about an unfortunate incident that happened last week in Westland.

'Domestic dispute ends when police slay Westland man,' it read, on top of the fold on page one.

The word that leaps out at me now is 'slay.' It seems to throb with a life of its own, although to be honest I didn't put too much thought into putting it on the page in the first place.

And perhaps that's the problem.

First of all, let me say that I'm writing this column on my own. Sure, some cops in Wayne mentioned the headline. Some said it was a poor word choice, others that it was outright sensationalism, two things that I try to avoid. I haven't talked to the officers involved in the incident, but I have talked with a few other policemen in Westland, who had a mixed opinion about it.

I guess my problem with the word now is that it seems to convey a sense of menace. It's not a verb you tend to identify with victims, and in this case the police officers were as victimized by the inci-

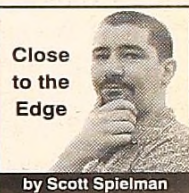
dent as the family of the suspect themselves.

For those who don't know the story, it started when police responded to a domestic dispute in Westland. Domestic disputes, as virtually any police officer will say, are often the most nerve-rattling because of the high emotions that fuel them. In this case police were looking for an armed man who threatened to kill his wife and himself.

He left their apartment with one of his children after a shot had been fired. When officers caught up to him they ordered him to put down his weapon, but he refused and eventually pointed it at them. He later told them that he wanted to die.

To say this was a tragic incident is a bit trite. It's a situation that left nothing but victims behind – it made victims of a family that is now missing a father and it made victims of the officers that were forced to play their part in this sad tale.

Although the police department has concluded that the officer involved didn't violate any rules for the use of deadly force, it's still something that they aren't likely to soon forget, if they ever do. They can take solace in the fact that they had no choice, though. They don't need to second guess themselves.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

Men, you can run but you can't hide

Melody Beattie, a noted author in the recovery-personal growth field, suggests that we learned how to deny a situation, or certain people and their actions, because of the way it felt to us. We trained ourselves to deny or ignore how we felt because we had no choice or no say in the matter.

Why? The answer is pain. Rather than continue to feel pain, disappointment, rejection, we develop a way to cope until we could escape the situation. Or, mistakenly, we think we've escaped.

My thoughts are this applies especially, but not exclusively, to men raised for the most part to deny and avoid feelings. "Big boys don't cry, Men don't cry." Ring a bell?

One day while sitting with a group of men in recovery, someone suggested we talk about feelings. Gino the Razor started singing, "Fe-e-e-l-i-n-g-s." Several guys laughed, others groaned at the dreaded song, but we didn't run, we talked at gut level openly and honestly about our feelings regarding death. It was a powerful and rewarding hour.

Stuffing your feelings, denying them, leads to a lot greater pain.

Addiction and/or obsession to food, alcohol, drugs-street and/or prescription, work, sex are some of the ways we deal with feelings. If life

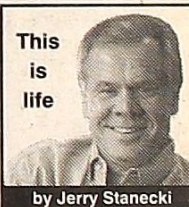
hurts—eat. Life hurts—drink. Life hurts, don't feel, focus instead on work, shopping or...

One of my most exciting moments came a few years into recovery when I realized it was OK to feel, OK to take care of myself. And, with those feelings came a stranger knocking...grieving.

I realized that years before, when my father died, the shock stunned me into numbness, a numbness that stayed for 30 years. Oh, I was sad, but it felt almost like an actor playing a role of sadness. I controlled the degree of feelings and stood tall with a stiff upper lip.

I was raised believing that fear was to be met, lived with or buried. You thought about it, then either charged head-on into it or you lived with it. I buried and avoided those feelings, only to contribute more to self-destruct. Like someone who finds food eases the pain, I drank.

For a lot of folks that solution doesn't work, because when the fear or pain gets too intense, they turn to the medicine—food, drink, drugs, shopping—anything to feel better; to help cope, to deny



This is life

by Jerry Stanecki

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See Run, page 7

LETTERS

Art show founders step aside

To the editor;

We would like to express our gratitude to the many of you in the Belleville area who have helped and supported our efforts to put on the Scholarship Art Show. Over the nine years that we have been striving to bring recognition and respect for the youthful artists of the area, we have enjoyed the support of the community and we appreciate it.

We would like to thank all the many volunteers who helped produce the show and especially the teachers and school adminis-

trators who have been such reliable supporters. We would like to thank the parents who have been kind in their praises and the student artists who are praiseworthy.

We would like to thank the local leaders of government and business who, as celebrity selectors offered the personal kind of gift that made children's lives memorable. Each year there have been hundreds of members of the community involved and it has created a wonderful event, enjoyed by all.

There were many goals we had in mind in starting this art show and we have been gratified to see them achieved. One of the

goals was to insure the finances to provide for \$1,000 scholarships for the next 30 years or more; we have reached that goal.

One of the goals has been to prepare for the show to continue in the future. In order to accomplish this goal it was necessary to prepare for others to manage and produce the art show. During the past few years the art teachers of the high school have played an increasing part in putting on the show.

Kathy Murphy and David Medley have shown the kind of competency and enthusiasm that give us confidence that the art show can carry on in the future. We shall become part of the audi-

ence of the community that has so often applauded the talents of our youth.

As the Scholarship Art Show has flourished, so has its sponsor, The Belleville Council for the Arts. In the encouragement of young artists and the demonstration of their talents, the Arts Council has also been encouraged and helped to find a place in the community. We are grateful for the acceptance of the community and hope that the Scholarship Art Show will continue to be a source of honor and pride for the Belleville area.

Ken and Sandy Askew,
Belleville

Send us your letters

The Journal welcomes all signed letters to the editor and will consider all submissions for publication.

Mail letters to: The Journal, P.O. Box 701422, Plymouth, Mich 48170.

Letters may be edited for content or space and must include a phone number for verification of identity.

Run

FROM PAGE 6

and avoid the feelings.

Sadly, I heard Gino was back in prison somewhere in Florida. He apparently couldn't deal with all of his fearful feelings and emotional pain because he went back to the monkey, heroin. While in an altered state I heard he did something that sent him back to prison.

Here's a guy awarded two Silver Stars (our country's second highest award for bravery) while in combat in Vietnam. Today, at 50-something, Gino sits in a cell.

I wonder where Gino would be, if he'd learned during those years of support groups, how to

deal with his feelings rather than make fun of them.

Ironically, Gino used to say, "A lot of people create the illness to get to the medicine."

Turns out he was talking about himself. Or, could he be talking about you?

Feel life; embrace solutions that come from feelings—then celebrate your victory.

Jerry frequently speaks on happiness and life, including lowering stress in the work world. His book "Life is a Joke and God Wrote it" can be ordered through www.jerry-stanecki.com or PO Box 121, Bloomfield Hills, Mi. 48303. The total cost is \$19.50. ©2002 Jerry Stanecki Journal papers May 29, 2003.

Walk

FROM PAGE 6

Enter Dan and Amy Horton, who just constructed a large home at the corner of S. Main Street and Caldwell. They're on the eastern fringe of that section of the city and none of their neighbors have sidewalks. Even so, the city building department told them the sidewalk construction was a condition of occupancy.

They appealed to city council, because they said a sidewalk leading up the gentle slope to their neighbor's yard would stand out like a big pale thumb. They wanted to preserve the character of the neighborhood

and offered to pay the city the cost of the sidewalk so city officials could use those funds to fill in the gaps where they were most needed.

The issue then became one of consistency versus character. Should the city strive to maintain the character of its unique neighborhoods, or should it strive to keep a consistent sidewalk policy? It's a perfect type of question for a local city council to answer, even though one of them – councilman Tom Swigart – said he felt uncomfortable addressing the issue in conversation because he was one of Horton's neighbors.

The city should have the flexibility to grant such requests, but that flexibility should be tempered with the knowledge that,

once it is granted, it will be asked for again.

The agreement struck by the city council Monday night (they granted the request) went against the recommendation of the administration. It could have been a better deal for the city, too. It only includes the sidewalk that would have been installed along Main Street, not the portion that should have been installed along Caldwell. City officials decided recently that improvements along Caldwell would be minimal because they, too, wanted to preserve the character of that neighborhood. For the sake of consistency, though, they should have asked for the funds to pave that sidewalk, too, in case those desires change.

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Township honors lifesaving efforts of 8 teen employees

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

A man collapses in your presence. He's not moving. He's not breathing. What would you do? How would you handle the situation?

In March a group of young employees at the Summit on the Park in Canton Township faced those exact circumstances.

On March 25, 2003, a 60-year-old man collapsed on a treadmill in the Summit fitness center, according to Leisure Services Director Ann Conklin.

Eight teenage Summit on the Park recreation center employees displayed outstanding bravery while attempting to save the life of the collapsed guest in the fitness center, she said.

Facility staff members Cassandra Parker, Erin Anthony,

"This was a tragic accident and they were prepared to handle it. They displayed tremendous courage."

Ann Conklin
Leisure Services Director

Mark Doughty, Leo Caza Jr. and Mark Turnquist followed the emergency action plan and contacted lifeguards on duty, said Conklin.

Lifeguards Erik Koppin, David Carson and Christopher Drabicki then assessed the guest's condition and continued with the emergency plan, performing CPR and other life sav-

ing procedures, according to Conklin.

It would have been easy for them to walk away once the fire department arrived on the scene, she said. However, the employees stayed to help inform police and ambulance medics of the situation when they arrived.

Although the resuscitation efforts failed, the employees' courageous actions should not be ignored, said Conklin.

The employees were recognized for exceptional service at the board of trustees meeting last week.

"This was a tragic accident and they were prepared to handle it," she said. "They displayed tremendous courage."

Area students earn academic honors

Several local students were recently named to the Dean's List at Grand Valley State University.

Harry W. Bedard, Elizabeth A. Bonnell, Kristie J. Good, Tracy E. Robey, Kristine E. Roulo, Scott P. Setlock and Laura J. Wallace, all of Canton Township earned the scholastic distinction.

Lakesha R. Butler of Inkster was also named to the Dean's List at the University as were Lynsey L.

Grzanowski, Maureen E. Kearney and Katherine M. MacDonell, all of Plymouth.

Kristin L. Kirk and Kathleen L. Mieras of Northville were also named to the Dean's List as were Jamie J. Novak of Wayne and Dawn R. Stecker of Westland.

To achieve the designation, students must maintain a 3.5 or better grade point average and have been enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hour classes.

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'Northvillestock'

Local bands to play at Ford Field

Scott Spielman
Editor

The recently renovated Ford Field in Northville isn't just for athletics, anymore.

The park, which hosted the Relay for Life event last weekend, will provide the backdrop for a first of its kind concert, according to Sue Taylor, events coordinator for the Northville Parks and Recreation department.

Called the Suburban Kids Rockin' Under Ford Field (SKRUFF) concert, it will take place from 5-10 p.m. May 31, according to Taylor. Five bands - mostly made up of high school students from Northville and Novi - will perform a variety of music from punk rock to jazz.

"We're pretty excited about it," she said. "This is really a first for Northville."

The idea sprang from a community dialogue that took place a few months ago, she said. That was a brainstorming session between community and business leaders and students in the community. High school students acted as facilitators of small group brainstorming sessions designed to identify and provide for the needs of youth.

"They were trying to identify things in the community, both positive and negative," Taylor said. "This is one of the things that the kids thought we could do better - give them an outlet to perform."

She said that once the idea germinated, it didn't take long to grow.

The students took the lead role in the planning of the event, she said.

Leo Svoboda, a high school student active in several musical programs, said he wasn't a part of the dialogue, but eagerly signed up to help put on the SKRUFF concert.

"As soon as they told me about the idea, I was incredibly excited," he said. "I thought it was a great opportunity. It's nice to have a showcase like this."

Svoboda and other students developed a screening process for potential bands.

They accepted demos from several throughout the community and he burned the best songs from those onto a single CD and selected the best bands from that, he said.

His own band, Tony Flow, was selected as one of the five. He said they play jazz influenced rock that he describes as 'bi-polar.'

"Some of it's mellow, and some of it will be pretty aggressive," he said.

The four other bands are Red Walther, which features students from Schoolcraft College, Shadow Box, Desktop Heroes and The Same Fate.

Svoboda said there would music that everyone would enjoy at the "Northvillestock" event.

Planning the entertainment is only art of what the students did to prepare for the concert. They also designed a website - www.skruff-music.url4life.com - along with a logo and T-shirts.

"You just figure out how to do this stuff out of necessity," said Svoboda, who designed the web site. "You have to use the Internet. It's the best way to get the information out."

The outdoor concert will take place May 31, with a rain date set for June 1. Tickets are \$5.

Taylor said the students worked with the Northville Parks and Recreation department, along with the Chamber of Commerce and Northville Youth Assistance to put on the program. The admission fee will cover the cost of the event and possibly ensure its return next year.

"Any profit we make we'll just use it as send money for another event," she said.

Svoboda said his band, like the others performing, haven't played in front of a large, outdoor crowd before. It's something that he's looking forward to and he hopes there will be a good response to the show, bother before and after.

"We want a lot of people to come out and see the type of talent we have in the area," he said.

"This is one of the things that the kids thought we could do better - give them an outlet to perform."

Sue Taylor
Events coordinator

Witness aids police with arrest

Scott Spielman
Editor

A vigilant citizen helped the Wayne Police Department get a drunk driver off the road Friday night.

Wayne Police Sgt. Jason Wright said the incident took place at about 6:50 p.m. Friday. He said the suspect, Janis Smith, a 49-year-old Wayne resident, plowed into the back of a car stopped at a red light at Michigan Avenue and Venoy Road.

"He just left the scene after that," Wright said.

Fortunately for police, another motorist saw the entire collision and flight, Wright said.

He called the accident in on his cell phone and then followed the suspect to the nearby Park View Apartment complex.

As the witness watched, Smith exited his vehicle and went into a wooded area nearby and sat down.

The citizen stayed on the phone until Ofc. Kyle Dawley arrived and then directed Dawley to where the suspect still sat.

"He was obviously intoxicated," Wright said.

Dawley also confiscated a small boot knife from Smith, who police said had a long record of traffic violations.

He was arraigned during the weekend on charges of drunken driving, driving with a revoked license and leaving the scene of an accident. He was also charged with carrying a concealed weapon, a four-year felony.

"(Kawley) was able to take a weapon off the street and a drunk driver off the street," Wright said. "It was good, solid police work."

Smith is being held in Wayne County jail on a \$100,000 or 10 percent cash bond, according to Wright. He's set for a preliminary examination at 9 a.m. May 28 at 19th District Court.

Wright praised the involvement of the citizen, who helped police make a speedy arrest.

"The nice thing about it is he saw it happen, said it wasn't right, got on his cell phone and stayed with it," Wright said.

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Spring cleaning Annual Rouge clean-up day set

Bryon Martin
Staff Writer

Inland rivers and the riparian lands along them can make for great playgrounds.

In Boston, boaters have rowed and sailed the Charles River for centuries. Portland, Ore, has the Willamette and Columbia rivers, which attract anglers stalking steelhead, sturgeon, salmon and walleye.

Then there's the Rouge River, a 126-mile system of rivers and creeks that radiates across Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw counties.

Rather than fishing or boating, the Rouge was best known for burning, a river so filthy with industrial and human wastes that the waters became flammable.

That's why volunteer groups and local governments have spent the last 17 years trying to rescue the Rouge with coordinated clean-up efforts each June.

Organizers in Canton Township, the Northvilles, the Plymouths, Wayne and Westland are looking for volunteers to help with River Day, a countywide effort to clean up and improve the river set for June 7.

Groups in each community have planned different activities, from the heavy labor of pulling out branches and logs to easygoing nature walks designed to inform residents about the Rouge ecosystem.

"More than anything, I want to get people down there and show them how beautiful the river is," said Bob Belair, Canton Township assistant engineer and a coordinator for River Day activities there.

Volunteers in Canton will be able to help out by building bird and duck houses, placing "no-dumping" signs at storm-water drains — or just taking a hike.

"We'll have a 20 to 30 minute walk along the river to point out what's going on and what's coming," Belair said.

"Canton has a master plan to build a trail system along the river from Canton

"It's a natural watercourse that people have in their backyard and don't even realize it."

Center Road to I-275."

Belair said the hike helps change perceptions of the Rouge by increasing awareness that the watershed is a wild place and a potential site for recreation.

"It's a natural watercourse that people have in their backyard and don't even realize it," he said. "It's a habitat for birds, insects and, in Canton, it's beautiful."

Jim Murray, executive director of Friends of The Rouge, agreed.

"I think these events have helped to really galvanize the public," he said. "There's been a lot of expenditure to improve sewers and storm water ordinances. And groups like the Johnson Creek Protection Group (in Northville) are very active."

After 17 years of such efforts, portions of the Rouge are more welcoming for boaters and anglers throughout western Wayne County, according to Murray.

"The river hasn't caught fire in years," he said. "The river is still struggling but the headwater areas — the portions in Northville, Plymouth and Novi — are in a lot better shape."

"There's a lot of fishing on the Rouge and lots of canoeing on parts," Murray said. "There was \$12 million spent to remediate Newburgh Lake, remove the PCBs and restock it."

Though things have improved, there's plenty of work to be done, according to Murray.

"We're still not encouraging full-body contact," he said. "But the river is a lot healthier and the ecosystem is doing pretty good."

For more information on how to volunteer in your community, call Friends of The Rouge at 313-792-9900.

Northville school board members OK plan for new community center

Scott Spielman
Editor

The renovation of the Northville Community Center into an expanded center for senior citizens cleared another pre-construction hurdle last week.

The Northville Board of Education — the last public body required to approved the concept — gave a unanimous approval to the plan at the regular meeting last Tuesday.

The action clears the way for the \$2.8 million renovation that will give the seniors and other community programs about 20,600-square feet of space.

"We're ready to roll," said Traci Sincock, Northville Parks and Recreation director.

The community center is owned by the school district and located on Main Street between the Old Village School and Northville City Hall. The parks and recreation department leases the structure from the district through a shared services agreement with the township and city of Northville. The lease is good for 15 more years and costs \$1.

It provides four additional meeting or

activity rooms and two multipurpose rooms on either end of the of northern expansion that can opened up into single, larger rooms, according to George Kacan, an architect on the project. More office space is included in the plan as is a large, open lobby area split by a central fireplace.

Sincock said the costs of the project would be split in a way similar to the effective formula used during the renovation of Hillside Middle School into the parks and recreation offices. The city and township would split the first 50 percent of the cost — about \$1.4 million — and the township would lend the rest to the parks and recreation department through a no-interest loan. Since both municipalities have been saving up to pay for the project, the township only has to come up with about \$398,000 and the city only \$209,000 to cover their shares of the initial \$1.4 million, she said.

Superintendent of School Leonard Rezmierski said the project was a perfect example of using inter-governmental cooperation to provide better services to residents.

"There are good things happening here," he said. "This is a wonderful example of cooperation I the community."



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Graduation day

Local student teachers complete classroom work

It was a somewhat different type of spring training. But for five student teachers who recently "graduated" from Halecreek Elementary School in Romulus, it was another step to the big leagues of a career in education.

The Romulus school has the distinction of being one of only two sites approved by Western Michigan University (WMU) in Kalamazoo for elementary student teaching in eastern Michigan.

In 2003, 23 WMU student teachers completed their teaching internships in Romulus schools. Romulus High School serves as the local secondary training site.

The five student teachers at Halecreek who trained during the spring semester represented diverse backgrounds.

Kristen Allred, a graduate of Woodhaven High School, was a member of both the swim team and the cheerleading squad. She worked with students in first-grade teacher Candy Walters' class.

Allison Loney, a graduate of Garden City High School, was a member of National Honor Society and the Spanish Club. She assisted with students in second-grade teacher Sandy Godbout's class.

Bethany Matthews, a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High school, was active in her school choir and theater programs. She trained under fifth-grade teacher Jason Salhaney.

Amy McKerracher, a graduate of John Glenn High School in Westland, was also a member of National Honor Society as well as the dance team. She helped students in fifth-grade teacher Kristen Fuss' class.

April Fornwalt, a graduate of Ypsilanti High School, was involved in drama and orchestra programs and was a member of the softball team and the cheerleading squad. She worked with kindergarten teacher Kathy Kudra's students.

"We're proud of the association we have developed with Western Michigan University and of the enthusiastic reception given to the student teachers by Romulus school district teachers," said Tom Dolan, curriculum director.

"Student teachers add a lot to the educational process and serve as role models for the children," he said.



Student teachers from Western Michigan University (WMU) who recently completed spring semester training at Halecreek Elementary School in Romulus included, from left, Kristen Allred, Allison Loney, Bethany Matthews, Amy McKerracher and April Fornwalt. Halecreek is one of only two sites approved for WMU student teacher training in eastern Michigan.

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SPORTS

Canton finishes undefeated in division play

Scott Spielman
Editor

Canton Softball Coach Jim Arnold said he couldn't ask for a better ending to the divisional portion of the softball season.

The Chiefs got another win, to make them 8-0 in the division but, more importantly, they got that win on the strength of a solid pitching performance from Molly Conlon. She became the second Canton pitcher this season to realize the dream of all pitchers — a no hitter.

"It's nice to have a pitcher go out and do something like that," Arnold said. "They don't come along every day."

Conlon was pin-point accurate in the windy Monday night game against Livonia Franklin, which the Chiefs won 2-0. She struck out five and walked none.

She helped out on the offense, too. Her lead off double in the second led to the first run of the game. Lisa Sprankle singled to send her home. Conlon also had

a triple as she went two for two on the day.

The Chiefs got their other run in the fifth inning, according to Arnold. Rachel Wade started off the inning with a single and then advanced to second on a wild pitch. She stole third and Janelle Brown sent her home with a long, deep sacrifice fly.

"In a case like that, she could have either got a hit or a fly out," Arnold said. "We would've taken either one."

Wade was two for four on the day and Sprankle was two for three.

The Chiefs played their last conference game Tuesday against Wayne Memorial, but the outcome of it wasn't known at press time. On Wednesday they played for the conference championship, but the outcome of that game wasn't known, either. Arnold said Monday night that he still wasn't sure who the Chiefs would draw in that game, Walled Lake Central or Salem. The district tournament starts May 27.



The Canton Chiefs finished the regular season undefeated in their division. Their perfect 8-0 division record was only accomplishment for the season; two of their pitchers, Michele Roeloff and Molly Conlon, threw no-hitters along the way.



Strong start

The Romulus Eagles opened their 2003 Mega Gold baseball season with a 4-1 record. Pictured are (front, left to right) Ron Buckely, Jamie Henne, Paul Adkins, William Williams (second row, left to right) Eric Behnke, Mark Woody, Dexter Thomas, Head Coach Damian Hull, Philip Roscoe (third row, left to right) Adam Malloy, A.J. Hall, Paris Jackson, Kyle Wasson and Ron Brown.

Inkster falls to rival Robichaud

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Inkster Vikings softball team lost both games in a double-header against rivals Dearborn Heights Robichaud Monday, May 19. The Vikings kept it close in the 5-7 and 7-6 losses, according to Inkster coach Ron Bailey.

"We're young and we'll be back," he said.

The double-header losses came after another hard loss last Wednesday to Highland Park. Despite a five run rally in the seventh inning, the slugfest ended in a 15-14 loss, according to Bailey. The Vikings had the bases loaded at the bottom of the seventh but they

couldn't bring a run home.

"It was a tremendous and very high-spirited game," he said.

The Vikings played it without two senior stars, DeeDee Murphy and Brittany Evans.

They wanted to take some time off to concentrate on their studies and their basketball scholarships to the University of Alabama, according to Bailey.

Inkster doesn't have a junior varsity team for younger players to gain experience, according to Bailey. Right now, the varsity team consists of all players from all grades, 9-12.

With inexperienced players and the loss of their top two seniors, the Vikings have to rely on those

younger players, he says.

"They're a young team," he said. "When you lose your top guns, it's hard to ask freshmen to step up and take the place of seniors."

However, they did step up, according to Bailey. Carina Easily, a junior, is the team's pitcher, leading hitter and leads the team in RBIs. Bailey said he has also gained considerable contributions from freshmen Lashayna Perry, Carmen Neal and Cierra Love to maintain a 10-5 season.

"They're a young team, but I feel pretty good about them," he said.

The Vikings have upcoming games at Dearborn Fordson and Willow Run before districts start on May 31.

Mustang kickers rebound from loss against Salem

Scott Spielman
Editor

The Northville Mustangs girls' soccer team rebounded from a loss last Monday to Salem with two solid wins.

They topped Wayne Memorial 9-0 last Wednesday on a solid offensive outing. They had a 7-0 lead at half time.

"The girls wanted the 'mercy' so they could go home early and watch the Pistons," said Coach Ron Meteyer. "But I refused."

He instead put in a lot of substitute players, who added two more goals before the end of the game.

It was a lopsided game, all around. The Mustangs had 40 shots on goal and the Zebras only had one, which goalie Katie Kniesal easily dispatched. The Mustangs had 25 goal kicks.

Five different players scored for Northville. Nicole Cauzillo had a hat trick with three goals and two assists. Lindsay Miglio scored two goals and Jessica Walsh added two goals, too.

Meteyer relented to the virtually endless pressure from Whitney Guenther, who wanted to log some time on offense. He let her play up front and her response was a 40-yard goal that cleanly found the net.

"It was a bullet," Meteyer said.

Friday the Mustangs were scheduled to take on Dearborn, but they were forced to substitute a make up game against Churchill, which is a league opponent.

The Mustangs didn't have three of their starters Friday night — Cauzillo was out with the flu and Deanna Kubos was recovering from the same illness. Stephanie Robbins was out, too — she had seven stitches in her eye from a cut suffered during the Salem game.

The Mustangs still topped the Chargers, 4-0.

Jen Kritch scored when she headed in a corner kick set up by Tessa Adkins.

"It was only our second goal off a header, all year," Meteyer said.

Guenther got another chance on offense, and made the most of it, too. She took a long ball from Miglio and beat the Churchill goaltender to give the Mustangs a 3-0 lead.

Mustangs win 4 games in 24-hour span

Scott Spielman
 Editor

The Northville Mustangs baseball team wrapped up a busy, but good week with four games in 24 hours on the weekend.

Their only loss in the week came on Wednesday, according to Coach Mickey Newman. In the seventh inning, Sean Carlson hit a sacrifice fly to tie the score and Nick VanDike drove in the go-ahead run for Walled Lake Central in a 5-4 Northville loss.

"It was a painful loss to take, but the kids bounced back," Newman said.

The Mustangs also finished off a game that had been postponed earlier because of bad weather, Newman said. They started a game against Canton in the third inning, and didn't waste any time adding to the score.

Jimmy Riehl belted a homer to get the Mustangs going. Roger Garfield knocked in another run in the fifth and the Mustangs got three runs in the sixth, capped by a two run single by Scott McNeish, according to Newman. The Mustangs won that game, 7-2. Tyler Carter got the win with a five-hit, two walk and six strike-out performance.

Northville 4, Livonia Franklin 3

The Mustangs played a weird game Friday against the Chargers. Their pitchers scattered eight hits and one walk through seven innings, hit a couple of batters and their defense committed some errors, but the Mustangs came out on top. The Patriots left 11 men on base, and the Mustangs only stranded a single runner.

They were up 2-0 after three

”

It was a nail-biter.

We got a little lucky.

Mickey Newman
Coach

pitches when Carter hit a two-run homer in the first inning. Riehl sent the other two runs home with a two-run single in the bottom of the fifth inning.

The Patriots had their chances, too. They had the bases loaded with one out in the sixth but didn't push a run across and runners on first and second with two outs in the seventh but didn't get a run out of that, either.

"It was a nail biter," Newman said. "We got a little lucky."

Matt Williams helped clear the bases of potential threats, though. He threw out three run-

ners on the base path.

"That got us out of some huge jams," Newman said.

The win made them 6-1 in the division.

The Mustangs played three games on Saturday and won them all after putting out their best offensive performance of the season. They topped Lincoln Park 7-4, Troy Athens, 11-1, in five innings, and Novi, 12-2, in five innings.

Riehl won the first game with a seven-hit, four-strikeout performance. Carter had a two-run home run in that one, and Jeff Huguelet reached base twice and scored both times. Steve Besk was two for three with two RBIs and two stolen bases.

Besk pitched the next game and gave up four hits with two strikeouts and two walks. Brenden Buckley went three for

four and Brian Tellish hit a bases loaded double that scored three.

Garfield pitched the Novi game and gave up six hits with four walks and two strikeouts in five innings.

Buckley went three for four, stole two bases. Tellish was on base all four times; he went two for two with two walks. He's knocked in seven runs in his last two games. Brett Asher was three for four with four RBIs but Jimmy Cicala had perhaps the most impressive offensive outing. He went three for three with three runs scored, four RBIs, a double and two home runs.

"He was seeing the ball well," Newman said.

The district tournament starts Tuesday.

"Hopefully we're peaking," Newman said. "It's a good time to peak right now."

John Glenn hurlers stumble again, but maintain attitude

Jeff Novak
 Staff Writer

The Westland John Glenn softball team dropped a tough game to Salem High School Monday night.

The 7-2 loss brought their record to 8-18 for the season.

However, their win total is three more than last year, according to John Glenn coach

Kim Shock.

The Rockets had both of their runs come in the second inning against a tough Plymouth team, she said.

"We didn't play too bad against a really good Plymouth team," she said. "We had two bad innings in the third and fourth. After that we held them."

Salem scored four runs in the third inning and three in the

fourth to win the game. The Rockets' number one pitcher, Dana Baran, took the loss despite her eight strikeouts.

Leadoff batter, Devin Ross, went four for four, all singles. Baran and Melissa Mosley also hit singles and Alicia Ring hit a double. Mosley and Ring each had an RBI.

"We didn't play bad," said Shock. "We had hits but couldn't

string them together for scores."

It was the second straight loss for John Glenn. On May 14, the Rockets were shut out by Walled Lake Western High School, 3-0.

Baran took the loss again for the team. She struck out four and only walked one. Her confidence doesn't seem to be waning, according to Shock.

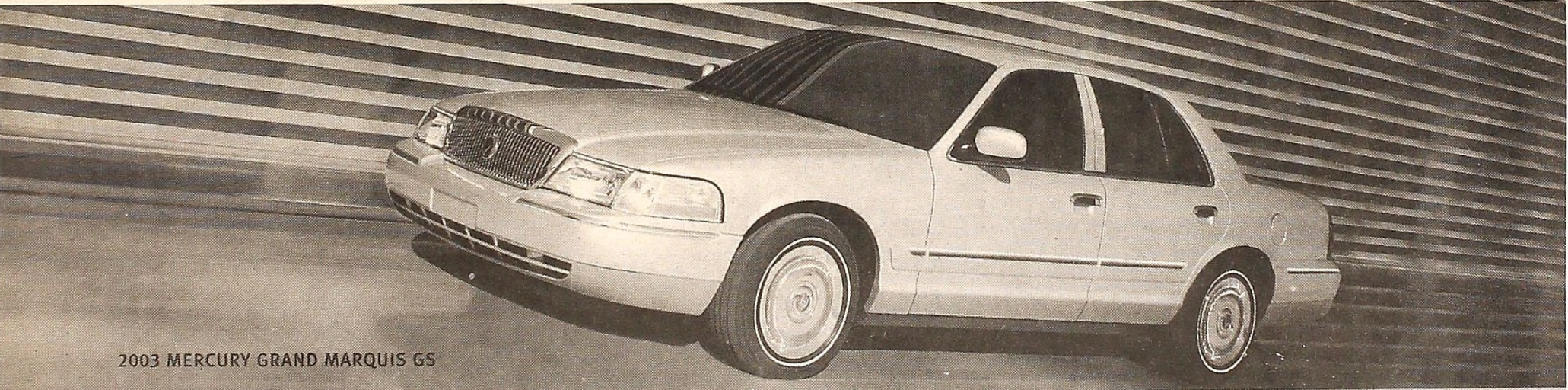
"Her attitude is great," she said. "I started the season with

three pitchers and she's our number one." She pitched well in both games, according to Shock.

Shock and her team are gearing up for the playoffs starting May 21.

"I'm happy with this season," she said.

"You have to take the positive out of every game. I just hope everyone had fun."



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Dillard leads Zebras to state track tournament

Scott Spielman
Editor

T.J. Dillard came up big for the Wayne Memorial Zebras Friday when their track team gathered at the regional tournament. Dillard won two events and anchored two relays as he assured himself and his teammates a place at the state competition next week, according to Coach Floyd Carter. They finished in seventh place, overall.

The regionals took place at Ypsilanti Lincoln High School, a grueling, 12-hour affair characterized by the phrase 'hurry up and wait.'

"It was a long day," Carter said. "But it was a good event. The kids ran well. We were able to shave a few seconds off our best times."

Dillard won both the 100-meter and the 200-meter dashes. He finished the 100-meter in 10.9 and the 200-meter in 22.2.

"He's run faster in the 100-meter before," Carter said. "He can certainly run faster."

It was good enough for the regional championship, though.

The Zebras took second place in the 400-meter relay, too. Stedman Frye, Terrill Ford, Darrian Miller and Dillard combined for a 44.1.

De'Lano Boles normally starts off the 400-meter relay for the Zebras, but he pulled a hamstring in the 800-meter relay, and freshman Frye took his place, Carter said.

"Frye did a great job in his place,"

Carter said. They came close to qualifying for the states in the 800-meter relay, too. Boles started off and then Miller, Ford and Dillard combined for the 1:31.8, which was good for third place. The top two seeds are guaranteed a spot in the state finals on May 31, but the Zebras lost out in that by .3 seconds. They could also have made it if they beat the state qualifying time of 1:31.4, but their time was .4 seconds off that.

"We just needed to be a little smoother on the handoff," Carter said. "That would have gotten us in."

Still, he said he was happy with the finish.

Next up for the Zebras is the conference meet, which took place yesterday, but the outcome wasn't known at press time.

Carter said the Zebras had some chances to score points, though. He expected a strong finish in the 400-meter and 800-meter relays.

"You gotta have the speed first, but it's all about the exchanges," he said.

Dillard had a good chance in the 100-meter and the 200-meter, too. Erick Thornton and Joe Jackson, who have vaulted up to 10-foot six inches and 11 feet, respectively have a chance at earning some points at the conference meet, too.

Darré Johnson, whose high jumps have topped six feet, might have a chance in that event.

"If he jumps well, we should get some points there," Carter said.

Belleville tops in regional

Scott Spielman
Editor

The Belleville Tigers track and field team had two double winners Friday, when they took the top honors in their regional competition.

The Tigers earned 82 points on the day, edging out Saline High School with 79. Ann Arbor Pioneer finished with 73 points, according to Belleville Coach George Devore.

"This is the most complete team I've ever had," he said.

Evan Walker won the high jump and the long jump at the regional and set a school record for the long jump, according to Devore. He finished with a six-foot, four inch leap in the high jump, which brought him first place, but isn't his best. He's gone as high as six feet six inches, according to Devore. His 22-feet, 1.25 inch leap in the long jump was a new school record.

Dave Chudzinsky set a new school record, as well. He won the low hurdles event in a blazing 39.2, eclipsing the old record. He also took the top honors in the high hurdles with 14.9.

The Tigers won the 400-meter relay in

43.2 seconds. It was Jejuan Crawford, Isacc Kindell, Chudzinsky and Corey Klein who ran for Belleville. The same team won the 1,600-meter relay, too. The combined for a scorching 3:26.2.

The wins guarantee those athletes a spot in the state finals on May 31, according to Devore. The Tigers had other qualifiers, too. Ed Goree took third place in the high hurdles, but his time of 15.0 seconds beat the qualifying time. Klein's 1:56.4 in the 800-meter was good enough to get him into the finals, too.

James Erickson took fifth place in the 3,200-meter run, and his 9:43.3 finish was good enough to send him to the states, Devore said.

The Tigers finished the regular season at a perfect 5-0 in the Mega Red. It was their first regional win since 1996.

They went to the Divisional Meet Tuesday at Dearborn Edsel Ford, but the outcome of that game wasn't known at press time. They travel to the Team State Championships this weekend at Eastern Michigan University, which is a new event open to the regional winners throughout the state. "This is the first time we're going to that," Devore said.

Kicks - Mustangs prepare for districts

FROM PAGE 12

Their final goal came on a breakaway run. Kritch fielded the ball and sent it to Lauren Hill, who escaped her defenders and then sent a laser into the Churchill net.

The Mustangs had 19 goal kicks on the day and the Chargers managed only three. Kniesal was more than a match for those, Meteyer said.

The Mustangs played Stevenson in a crossover match Monday, but the outcome of the game wasn't known at press time. Meteyer said he was concentrating now on

the playoffs, which start on May 27. This year, they have an easier road to travel to get out of the districts. Last year they had to match up against Salem, Canton and Novi just to get out of the districts. They did, but didn't have much energy left for Stevenson, who ended their season.

This year they start they playoffs against Walled Lake Central, although they'll be playing on their field, which is smaller and in worse condition than the Mustangs' home turf.

"That'll be the biggest factor," Meteyer said.

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Canton readies for rematch at Salem

Scott Spielman
Editor

The Canton Chiefs' girls soccer squad kept three more opponents from scoring goals on them last week, but only came up with two victories. The Chiefs easily dispatched Churchill last Monday, 7-0 on a well-rounded team effort, according to Coach Don Smith.

Kara Marsh and Katie Raker led the Chiefs in that one. They each had two goals and one assist in the win. Erica Ahrens had a goal and two assists, Katie Esper added a goal, Bailey Fagan had a goal and Katie Mills had an assist for the Chiefs, Smith said.

Ahrens and Marsh led the Chiefs to a 2-0 victory against Livonia Stevenson on Monday. They each scored a goal in the win, Smith said. Briana Wolcott was in goal for both shutouts.

Saturday the Chiefs battled Ann Arbor Pioneer to a 0-0 tie.

"They had a few more shots than we did, but neither of us



The Chiefs were 11-2-1 heading into Wednesday's championship game against their gross-river rivals, the Salem Rocks. The outcome of that game wasn't known at press time.

could find the net," Smith said.

The Chiefs faced 21 shots on the day, but the defense and Wolcott turned them all aside.

"They put a lot of pressure on us," Smith said.

The wins gave the Chiefs an 11-2-1 overall record and an 8-0-1 record in the league. Last night, they played Salem for the league championship, but the outcome of that game wasn't known at press time.

"We'll probably see them next week, too," he said.

The last time the two cross-campus rivals met, it was a 2-1 win for Canton.

"It was a close game," Smith said. "We're pretty evenly matched."

The district tournament starts the following week, and Smith said the Chiefs probably haven't seen the last of Salem, yet.

"We'll probably see them next week, too," he said.

Lady Mustangs break records at regional meet

Scott Spielman
Editor

On Friday night the Lady Mustangs put up a lot of strong performances in the highly competitive Milford Regional.

Starting the day off the 3,200-meter relay team of Devon Rupley, Kate McClymont, Katy Miller and Lisa Bowen ran a blazing 9:39, placing second, a new school record.

"The hard work they have put in all season really paid off," said Northville Coach Nancy Smith. "Each girl ran a season best split and also dropped 20 seconds off the previous season-best time."

Rupley was regional champion for the second year in the 800-meter with a time of 2:19. Bowen ran an impressive 2:22, taking fifth, and also qualified for the state meet.

Other top performances for the day included Katy Miller in the 1,600-meter run. She ran a season best time of 5:27, finishing seventh. Heather Moehle ran 11:50 in the 3,200-meter for sixth place.

The 1600-meter relay team of Rupley, Miller, Julia Williams and Bowen ran a season best time of 4:15.

Andrea Watts ran a courageous 300-meter hurdles and finished in 50.8 seconds.

"Andrea was injured during

our dual meet on Tuesday with an ankle injury, although in pain, she gave it her all in both the high jump and the hurdles," Smith said.

Keri Oshanski had a season best time in the 300-meter hurdles (49.9). "I was happy with the girls' performances (Friday)," Smith said.

Last Tuesday, the Mustangs defeated Walled Lake Western in the last dual meet of the season 70.5-66.6.

Watts tied for first in the high jump with a season/career best jump of 5 feet.

The 3200-meter relay team of Miller, Moehle, Kate McClymont and Bowen won with a time of 10:25.

Miller won the 1,600-meter in 5:39, Rupley was a double winner in the 400-meter (1:02) and the 800-meter (2:32), Keri Oshanski won the 300-meter hurdles (51.1) and was second in the 100-meter hurdles with a season best time of 16.6.

The 1600-meter relay team was an exciting finish to the meet, according to Smith. Miller, Bowen, Julia Williams and Emily Weaver took first with a time of 4:23 winning the meet for Northville.

"We had some rough spots during the season but in the end we came on strong and are performances continued to improve each week," she said.

Rocket runners miss State cuts

The John Glenn Rockets came close in a couple of events, but didn't qualify any athletes for the state track and field finals next week in Grand Rapids.

"We had two bad hand-offs, one in each of our relays, that cost us in both of those races," said John Glenn Coach Kirk Conner. "If we had had smooth handoffs, we would've made it."

The Rockets finished in 11th place at the regionals with 14 points.

The 800-meter relay team took third place at the regional competition Friday with a 1:48.8. A 1:48.0 finish would have sent them to Grand Rapids, Conner said.

Elizabeth Easter, Stephanie Foster, Chantal Moore and Tonya White ran for Glenn. They were in second place until a bad hand off dropped them back to third, according to Conner.

"(White) almost caught us back up, but wasn't quite enough," he said.

The 400-meter relay team was .7 seconds off a qualifying time. They finished in 52 seconds flat. It was Brittany Howard, Foster, Easter and White who ran for Glenn. They were in first place until a bad transition on the handoff dropped them to fourth place.

"That was good, but we should've been a little better," Conner said. "We should've had two relays going to the states, but we had a couple of nervous kids on the relay and that was that."

Howard took fifth place in the long jump with a 14-foot, 11.5 inch leap.

Easter had some uncharacteristically low scores in that event. All of her leaps came in at less than 15 feet, which Conner said she usually hits on a bad day.

"She had a bad day at the regionals," he said. "We couldn't figure out what was wrong. It was the worst she's jumped in two years. She was totally bummed out."

Zebras fall to Walled Lake Central

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Wayne Zebras baseball team lost to Walled Lake Central Monday.

The 10-16 Zebras were up 2-0 but gave up three runs in the third inning and one in the fourth inning to make it 4-2. Each team scored one run in the fifth resulting in the 5-3 loss, according to Wayne Memorial coach Tom Wakefield.

"It's been the story of our season," he said.

Pitcher Chris Judd took the loss for the team after he relieved starter Brian Odom. Joel Doyen went three for four at the plate, hitting all singles and Bob Clark went two for three at bat; both were sin-

gles, according to Wakefield.

The loss came after a huge come-from-behind win against Churchill, May 14. The Zebras were down 9-3. The big play came in the seventh inning when Clark hit a grand slam homerun to tie the game at 10-10, according to Wakefield.

In the eighth, with Odom and Clark on base, Dave Clemning hit a single RBI to win the game 11-10. Clemning was also the winning pitcher. He struck out the last batter with the bases loaded, said Wakefield.

"It was a great game to be able to coach," he said.

Wayne Memorial will play a tournament at Gabriel Richard in Riverview on Saturday. They will face Cabrini, Lincoln Park and Gabriel Richard.

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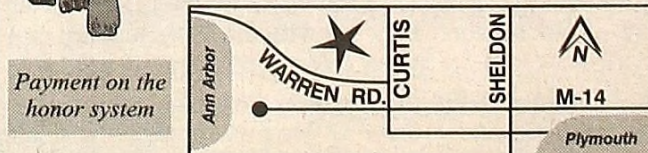
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89. Apartments For Rent

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103. Business With Property



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57. Antiques & Collectables

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Living history

Local students portray well-known characters

The students at Adams Middle School in Westland put on their best faces Thursday night.

Dozens of them, in fact.

The students acted as the displays in their own version of a wax museum. Dressed to simulate historical figures, they came to life when approached by parents or other students and gave a brief history of who they were and what contribu-

tion they made to society as a whole.

The presentation took place from 6-7:30 p.m. in conjunction with the annual parent's night, according to Principal Lorri MacDonald.

She said that was by design – the staff, who wrote and received a \$2,500 grant to help pay for the program – wanted to show parents how exciting middle school could be.




No celebration of history would be complete without someone acting as Benjamin Franklin. Here, the honor goes to Austin Pugh.



Robert Randall talked about English Scientist Richard Spruce, who is credited with developing a cure for Malaria from a common form of ivy.



Carol Brudzynski, dressed as Marie Curie, told a visiting parent about her contribution to history about her role in history Thursday night.



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Best friends

Civitans fund service dog for student

Scott Spielman
Editor

Members of the Plymouth-Canton Civitans group had a chance to see their latest act of charity in action Thursday night.

He's a Golden Retriever named Bravo, and as a service dog, he will help Amanda Bell as she takes on her dream next year of attending Michigan State University.

Bell, a senior at Salem High School, has cerebral palsy and uses a power operated wheelchair to get around.

"When we heard her request last year, we just couldn't turn her down," said Cheryl Van Vliet, a member of the Plymouth-Canton Civitans club.

Students at John Glenn High School also helped with the fundraiser as did the United Way.

Bell said she'd had Bravo for about five weeks now, and the two were still getting acquainted. She's had him at the campus at Plymouth Canton Educational Park, where she also works on WSDP 88.1, the student-run radio station.

She said Bravo would help her with basic daily tasks.

"I always heard it takes a long time so I was surprised to get Bravo so quickly. I really appreciate this."

Amanda Bell

"She's mostly going to be picking things up, because I'm kind of a klutz," she said.

Van Vliet said the group was able to get the two together through Paws with a Cause, an organization that the Civitans have been involved with since 1995.

Since then, they've contributed more than \$34,000 to Paws with a Cause and matched four service dogs with their needy owners.

"It's a lot of time, a lot of energy and a lot of hard work," said Sue Brooks, an operational development representative with Paws with a Cause.

Van Vliet said the group generated money through events like the Paws Walk, through selling candy at restaurant and

store countertops and through fundraising events like the community breakfasts they put on last year at the Masonic Lodge in downtown Plymouth.

They're also active during the fall festival with a food and keepsake booth.

"We raise money in a lot of different ways," she said. "This is a hard-working group."

And they need to be. An average service dog costs about \$15,000, according to Brooks. The dogs require an extensive amount of training because often times the people training them don't know the specifics of the dog's duty once it is placed with a companion.

"Some of them have to do very specific things and need to learn a lot more than we would think possible," Brooks said.

The Paws with a Cause organization dates back to 1979, although it was known as Ears for the Deaf back then, according to Brooks. That was because they specialized in supplying dogs for hearing-impaired individuals.

But the services have expanded since then, along with the types of people the group helps.

Bell said she truly appreciat-



Salem High School senior Amanda Bell has a new friend, courtesy of the Plymouth-Canton Civitans organization. He's a service dog named Bravo, who will help her out when she goes to Michigan State University in the fall.

ed the gift, particularly because she only requested a service dog last year.

"I always heard it takes a long time so I was surprised to get Bravo so quickly," she said and added that fundraising is a relatively unpredictable en-

deavor.

"I know it's hard. I've done a lot of fundraising in the past," she said.

"It can be very rewarding and it can be frustrating, too," she told the group. "I really appreciate this."

152

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